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SOURCE Radio dan Masyarakat Indonesia.DATA ON INDONESIAN SHIPBUILDING COMPANY

Comment: This report describes the plant and production of the United Shipbuilding Company (Perusahaan Pasterik Kapal Indonesia) at Pasar Ikan, Djakarta.

The United Shipbuilding Company constructs and repairs both wooden and steel vessels. The work is done for private concerns as well as for the government. This shipyard occupies an area of about 40,000 square meters and has modern equipment. The steel workshop measures 180 by 45 meters and contains an electrically powered crane as well as two sheet metal pressing machines of 100- and 200-ton capacity. These machines are used to roll steel plates to a thickness up to 8 millimeters. After the steel plate has been measured and outlined, it is placed under a giant cutting blade and cut according to the drawing or outline on the surface. All of the lathing, grinding, and welding are done by electric power. Even in the carpentry shop, the sawing, finishing, and processing of teakwood logs is done by electric power.

In an interview, J. Koutstaal, the director, said the shipyard was opened in 1925. Since then, the shipyard has built 342 ships and has repaired many vessels, he said, including ships up to 500 tons. He added that this is the only shipyard the firm owns; it employs about 800 persons; and large orders for ships come primarily from the Sea Patrol (Polisi Laut), which was established on 23 November 1951.

Koutstaal said that the company had to import machinery and ship engines from abroad. The machines are assembled upon arrival in Indonesia. He said the shipyard uses from 100 to 1,500 tons of steel and from 500 to 700 cubic meters of lumber annually. The company hopes to build larger ships. To this end, the government is giving full support by making foreign exchange available to the company and by placing orders with it for new ships.

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Koutstaal said he was disappointed to see the government buying foreign made ships without having first invited the United Shipbuilding Company to submit bids. He feels that the company could fill all government orders. The company slogan is, "Build Ships for Indonesia in Indonesia."

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